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## **Undergraduate students' attitudes and perceptions towards a possibly coercive sexual encounter**

Seana Katherine Fraser-Estavillo

Hang Sara Nguyen

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UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS' ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS  
TOWARDS A POSSIBLY COERCIVE SEXUAL ENCOUNTER

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A Project  
Presented to the  
Faculty of  
California State University,  
San Bernardino

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In Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirements for the Degree  
Master of Social Work

---

by  
Seana Katherine Fraser-Estavillo  
Hang Sara Nguyen

June 2001

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS' ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS  
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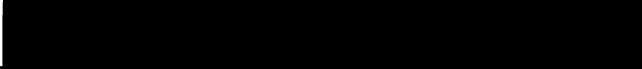
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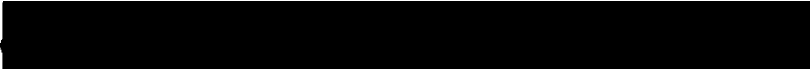
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by  
Seana Katherine Fraser-Estavillo  
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June 2001

Approved by:

  
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## ABSTRACT

This research addressed undergraduate students' current attitudes and perceptions regarding a possibly coercive sexual encounter and the use of date rape drugs. A sample of undergraduate students from a Southern California university was surveyed. Attitudes and perceptions were examined using a self-administered survey in a classroom setting. The study found that both genders perceived that the hypothetical scenario as rape, however, females possessed stronger reactions. More females, than males, believed that these sexually coercive events occur on a frequent basis. Whites, more than non-whites, more strongly disagreed with the idea that the female had been responsible for the situation. Subjects, over the age of 24 were significantly more likely to view the vignette as constituting rape, than younger subjects. As drug facilitated sexual assault is rapidly increasing, these findings could aid social work practitioners through increased knowledge of the dangers and possibly be integrated into rape prevention programs. These results could also be used in the clinical domain to address possible common beliefs that sexual assault victims might possess.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The researchers would like to acknowledge Dr. Teresa Morris for her guidance, support, and knowledge.

DEDICATION

To my husband Alonzo for his love and patience.

SE

To my family and KCK for their support, unconditional  
love understanding and inspiration.

HSN

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## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

#### Problem Statement

This research project addressed the current level of attitudes and perceptions regarding a potentially coercive sexual encounter and the use of "date rape drugs." These attitudes and perceptions will be analyzed as a general sample, and then compared in regards to significant differences based on the roles of subjects' age, gender, and ethnicity.

The problem statement is discussed in terms of adversarial sexual attitudes and their connection to sexual misconduct. The problem statement also addresses the lack of research in current literature on specific factors involved with individuals' perceptions and attitudes of a potentially coercive sexual encounter and date rape drugs. Additionally, the problem statement presents statistics of sexual coercion and assault in regards to the population of study and the influence on the current social situation of sexual assault regarding the use of date rape drugs.

## Adversarial Sexual Attitudes

A common form of sexual coercion is date rape. Among college students, date rape is a prevalent concern (Bell, Kuriloff, Lottes, Nathanson, Judge, & Gogelson-Turet, 1992). Assessing attitudes about sexual coercion is important as these attitudes have been linked to date rape behaviors (Bell et al., 1992). Possessing adversarial sexual beliefs and acceptance of rape myths and interpersonal violence has been correlated with engaging in sexual misconduct (Bell et al., 1992).

The possession of adversarial beliefs refers to the expectation that sexual relationships are fundamentally explosive, that each party is manipulative, sly, cheating and not to be trusted. The acceptance of interpersonal violence is the belief of force and coercion being legitimate ways to gain compliance in intimate sexual relations (Truman, Tokar, & Fischer, 1996). A previous study concluded that many Americans in the college setting support numerous rape myths (Burt, 1980). For example, the acquisition of these rape myths has been accentuated by general cultural norms and beliefs, causing the United States to possess a rape rate that is the highest among any industrialized country (Burt, 1980).

### Lack of Research

Research on this topic is needed in the social work literature and body of knowledge. There is a significant lack of literature addressing the role of ethnicity and age in the perception and attitudes towards a potential date rape situation. Similarly, the current literature does not address the role of date rape drugs in coercive sexual situations.

### Sexual Coercion and Assault

This lack of literature is not reflective of the current social situations. The FBI estimates that one in four women will be raped in their lifetime (Heppner, Good, Hillenbrand-Gunn, Hawkins, Hacquard, Nichols, Debord, & Brock, 1995). A total 90% of sexual assault is perpetrated against women under the age of 30, with women's victimization rate peaking between ages 16-19 years of age (Heppner et al., 1995). College women are at the highest risk. For example, Heppner et al found that one third of college women reported incidences of sexual assault (Heppner et al., 1995). Exacerbating the problem is the sobering fact that most of the victims are hidden because a majority of these sexual transgressions go unreported. It is estimated that only one out of every three to ten rapes gets reported (Byers & O'Sullivan, 1998). A major

reason is that many perpetrators and victims do not acknowledge coercive sex on a date as a rape experience.

In the most comprehensive study, involving a national sample of students from 34 colleges and universities, 15% of the women had experienced assaults meeting the legal definition of rape. Furthermore, another 12% of the respondents reported having been victims of attempted rape. Another study found that by the time college students were in their junior and senior year, one third of the women reported being victims of sexual assault and one in three men reported being perpetrators (Byers & O'Sullivan, 1998).

#### Date Rape Drugs

Adding to the problem of sexual coercion is drug facilitated sexual assault. A notable increase has occurred in the past few years in the frequency of reports of drug facilitated sexual assault of older adolescents and young adults in bars, nightclubs, rave parties, social gatherings, and dates (Schwartz, Milteer, & LeBeau, 2000). In addition to alcohol, widespread media attention has been given to the two most frequently used date rape drugs, Flunitrazepan (Rohypnol) and Gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GBH). Perpetrators choose the new generation of drugs because they act rapidly, often within 20 minutes, and causes

disinhibition, passivity, loss of will to resist, relaxation of muscles, and lasting anterograde amnesia (Schwartz et al., 2000). Due to the amnesiac nature of these two drugs, the victim may not report the crime for days or even weeks.

A common scenario is a young woman reporting that she visited a bar or party and was offered a mixed drink with alcohol or a soft drink. Later she becomes distracted and loses attention to her drink. The woman may report becoming light headed and losing memory of all later events. Awakening in strange surroundings with disheveled clothing, the victim often realizes that they have been sexually violated (Seligman & King, 1996).

Although alcohol remains the most widely used date rape drug, other central nervous system depressants (such as the narcotics described above) are increasing being used as "knock out drops" to render female victims helpless and amnesiac (Schwartz et al., 2000). There are three commonly used date rape drugs, Rohypnol, Gamma-Hydroxybutrate (GHB), and gamma-butyrolactone (GBL). Symptoms of intoxication include rapid loss of inhibition and consciousness that rapidly progresses to the victim losing all muscular control, conscious but the victim is

unable to resist the assault of an attacker (Seligman & King, 1996).

This study is needed at this time because drug facilitated assault has become an increasing common method of violent sexual aggression. The malicious use of date rape drugs is rapidly increasing nationwide, especially in the Southern and South-Western states (U.S. Department of Justice, 2000). Several studies have documented the high rates of sexual assault experienced by college women (Byers & O'Sullivan, 1998).

It is hypothesized that this study will find significant differences based on the role of gender in the attitudes and perceptions. It is hypothesized that males will possess more adversarial attitudes and demonstrate a higher level of "blame the victim" mentality. As the roles of ethnicity and age have not been found to be addressed in the current literature, the researchers are investigating their influences using exploratory questions.

#### Problem Focus

The problem focus will address the issues examined through this study. The contributions of this study to social work practice are also discussed. In conclusion,

the problem focus states the research question and hypotheses of the study.

### Issues to be Examined

This research project examined the attitudes and perceptions of undergraduate students in a comprehensive four-year university in Southern California, regarding a possibly coercive sexual situation and the use of "date rape drugs." The specific issues studied were whether or not students were aware of the increased presence of these "date rape drugs" in social situations (for example, nightclubs and parties), how they feel about this situation, and the attributed levels of individuals' involvement and responsibility in a potentially coercive sexual encounter.

### Contributions to Social Work

This study can increase the existing knowledge base about students' attitudes toward a possibly coercive sexual experience and the use of date rape drugs. The contributions to social work are numerous. An example of one of these contributions, at the macro level, is providing school administration with information regarding students' attitudes towards sexual assault and the use of date rape drugs. Receiving empirical data regarding the student population's feelings about rape, druggings, and



safety could be used in influencing a future reallocation of college resources (increasing the present level of campus rape prevention and student support services).

Through this study's gauging of the present level of university students' attitudes towards sexual assault and its victims, important social work data was produced. Today's youth have a high potential for possessing an ideology quite different than a similar cohort a few years prior, due to numerous unprecedented environmental stressors. It is important to examine the degree in which this sampled population subscribes to the "blame the victim" mentality that was present in previous studies. This study also fills a gap in the present research literature through its addressing of the role of age, gender, and the use of date rape drugs in attitudes and perceptions towards a potentially coercive sexual encounter.

With increased public knowledge about their peers' ideas, regarding whether or not it is okay to force a woman into sex, women could possibly be assisted in remaining safe. Creating this heightened public awareness, and subsequent increased public addressing of the issue, is reflective of the social work ethic of "promoting conditions that encourage respect for cultural and social

diversity" (National Association of Social Workers [NASW], 1997, p. 8).

These findings will improve social work practice in this area through adding more information onto rape crisis intervention and prevention. Increased knowledge about the prevalence of pro-rape attitudes and sexual assault druggings could be presented into both therapeutic and educational domains. In a therapeutic domain, clinicians could gain increased understanding into what types of attitudes and perceptions a victim or offender coming into therapy may possess regarding a potential coercive sexual encounter. Local rape crisis centers could use the study's data in presenting more current and accurate trainings for new volunteers and employees. Gathering of increased data is indicative of the social work ethic of "promoting and facilitating evaluation and research to contribute to the development of knowledge" (NASW, 1997, p. 11).

As this study will evaluate the impact of ethnicity and gender in the presence of date rape and date rape drugging beliefs, this knowledge could be integrated into clinical practice when dealing with clients who are victims or perpetrators of this type of assault. Understanding a client's perceptions of their assault in their cultural context role will increase practioners'

effectiveness. Similarly, acknowledgement or dismissal of stereotypes regarding men's beliefs systems on this topic will also be beneficial.

### Research Questions and Hypotheses

The first research question for this study is: What are the attitudes and perceptions of undergraduate students regarding a possibly sexually coercive encounter and the use of date rape drugs? The hypothesis of the researchers, based on review of literature, stipulates that males will possess a higher level of adversarial attitudes and will attribute more responsibility to the victim in the hypothetical scenario. The second research question is: How will the variable of ethnicity influence subjects' attitudes and perceptions towards a hypothetical possibly coercive sexual encounter? No hypotheses has yet been formed concerning this question due to a lack of literature on the subject. The third research question is: How will the variable of age influence subjects' attitudes and perceptions towards a hypothetical possibly coercive sexual encounter? No hypothesis has yet been formed concerning this question due to a lack of literature on the subject.

## CHAPTER TWO

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### Adversarial Sexual Attitudes

Adversarial sexual attitudes and rape myths have been investigated for their influence on possible acceptance of interpersonal violence and committing of violent behavior. Similarly, the possession of rape myths by women were studied to find out if these negative stereotypes affect their beliefs about other women encouraging victimization and perpetrators' motivations for an assault. The etiology of these adversarial attitudes has also been explored.

Burt (1980) explored the relationship of attitudes and beliefs toward women and support for rape myths. Using regression analysis of interview data, it was found that many Americans do believe in rape myths. These misogynist attitudes have been found to be strongly connected to deeply held and pervasive attitudes, such as sex role stereotyping and distrust of the opposite sex. Acceptance of interpersonal violence was found to be the strongest predictor of rape myth acceptance.

The connection between adversarial sexual beliefs and interpersonal violence was also evidenced in another study. Hartman (2000) studied the relationship between an

individual's attitudes and beliefs (sex role attitudes, authoritarianism, private self consciousness, adversarial sexual beliefs) and the abuse of women. This study found that men possessing adversarial sexual beliefs were more likely to report verbal and physical abuse of their partner.

A concept that could possibly explain why female college students would not be concerned with coercive sexual experiences and/or engage in victim blaming behaviors is that of mentally distancing themselves from the victim. Believing that they could not ever get drugged provides a sense of security and safety. Through acceptance of rape myths, a personal escape is offered of what they personally would have done different and why they would never be caught in that situation.

This concept corresponds with Cowan's study of women's beliefs and perceptions of rape. Cowan (2000) studied the relationship between some women possessing a hostility towards women as a group and their acceptance of victim blaming rape myths. This study, using a questionnaire, found that women who possessed negative stereotypes about women and are hostile towards women are more likely to support the belief that victims of rape and sexual harassment encourage the victimization. These same

women who possess the negative schema of other women were also found to have a higher acceptance of interpersonal violence on women and believe that rape is caused by a man's sexual drives and that rapists are mentally ill.

To attempt to understand the origins of these adversarial sexual attitudes, Bell et al., 1992, investigated the socio-cultural model of aggression towards women. The investigation, using a sample of college freshman, explored the relationship between attitudes and culture and the etiology of callous attitudes. Findings suggest that attitudes about sexuality, learned through parents or peers, are influential in forming attitudes toward rape that predispose an individual to sexual misconduct. Findings supported the argument that socialization of culturally ingrained views about the inferior role of women is correlated with the tendency to degrade rape victim and hold the victim responsible for the sexual assault.

#### External Stimuli

Numerous researchers have attempted to explain and account for factors that may be contributing to the presence of sexually adversarial attitudes. Some researchers have looked to exposure to external stimuli as

a means of acquiring these perceptions and attitudes. In particular, the effect of exposure to the Internet and stereotyped music videos were investigated.

Barak (1999) conducted a study in which the effect of viewing amplified Internet pornography on university men's attitudes toward women was analyzed. Barak found that exposure to the pornography was not found to have an effect on the self-reported likelihood of sexually harassing a woman or their self-reported acceptance of rape myths.

In a similar study, Kalof (2000) conducted a study where control and experimental groups were shown music videos with either gender-stereotyped imagery or non-gender stereotyped imagery. This study found that exposure to traditional stereotyped imagery had a substantial effect on American college student's beliefs about adversarial sexual relationships. However, exposure to this stimulus did not have an effect on gender role stereotyping, the acceptance of rape myths, and the acceptance of interpersonal violence.

#### Interpersonal Factors

The factor of past individual traumas has also been investigated for their effect on individual's attitudes

toward sex and abusive relationships. Youths in foster care, who had been victims of abuse, were studied for differentiations from the general public in experiences of dating violence. Similarly, women who had been victims of sexual abuse were examined for the influence of this trauma in their sexual behavior and beliefs.

Johnson-Reid and Bivens (1999) studied how the experiences of dating violence might be different for adolescents in foster or group care than for adolescents in the general population. The participants responded about their experiences as victims and perpetrators of abuse, their witnessing violence in the family of origin, their continued participation in an abusive dating relationship, and their desire for prevention and intervention services. Youth in foster and group care were not found to have higher levels of self-reported involvement in dating violence, than youth in the general population. However, adolescents in foster or group care did have a greater tendency to remain in abusive relationships.

In another attempt to gauge the impact of an individual experiencing negative circumstances on sexual attitudes and behaviors, Anderson (1998) conducted a study of college women. Although sexually abused women have not



been found to have increased dating violence involvement, the abuse trauma was found to affect their level of sexual aggression and attitudes towards sex. This study found that women who had a history of sexual abuse did have a higher probability of being sexually aggressive and possess a belief that relationships between men and women are essentially adversarial.

#### Gender Factors

The role of gender has been examined for creating possible variations in attitudes and perceptions of sexual situations and sexual assault events. The acceptance of rape myths has been found to vary according to the subjects' gender. The influence of an individual's gender on sexual miscommunication and motivations in a sexual situation has also been explored. Additional research has found that age and gender influences the perception of meaningful negotiation of sex.

Blumberg and Lester (1991) studied high school and college students' attitudes toward rape. It explored the relationship between acceptance of rape myths and the tendency to blame the victim. Questionnaires, containing vignettes of rape situations, were administered in a classroom setting to high school and college students.

This study revealed that high school males blamed the victims of rape more than high school females and males agreed more strongly with myths about rape. The results concluded that high school and college females held similar views on rape. However, high school males believed more strongly in rape myths and blamed the victim of rape more than college males. For both sexes, believing in rape myths was strongly associated with blaming the victim (Blumberg & Lester, 1991).

Holcomb, Sondag, Williams (1994) examined gender differences in college students' attitudes towards rape. The focus of this research was studying perceptions of miscommunication about sexual consent and rape tolerant attitudes. One in three men agreed that aggressiveness is related to masculinity, and one in two men agreed that some women enjoy and ask for rape. Regarding attitudes about sexual communication, 36% of males and 21% females agreed that when a woman says "no" to having sex, she means "maybe" or even "yes." This "token resistance" miscommunication may encourage men to ignore sexual refusals. Students' responses concluded that women were more aware of date rape danger signs than their previous cohort. Consistent with previous findings, men more often endorsed rape tolerant attitudes. Approximately one in

four men believed that the women often provoke rape; that many women could prevent rape if she really wanted to, and that women often cry rape falsely.

Regan and Dryer (1999) examined the commonalities and differences that arise from women and men's definitions of sexual assault when acquaintances are involved. This study found that older women, nonanglophone women, feminists, and males challenged the idea that women can negotiate sex meaningfully with men. However, younger and middle aged women supported the concept that sex can be meaningfully negotiated.

In contrast to the study of Holcomb et. al., 1994 another study found sexual miscommunication to be a minimal factor in sexual assault. Hickman and Muehlenhard (1999) examined how men and women differ in their presentation and interpretation of sexual consent. Using college students, the study was performed through administration of questionnaires, with hypothetical scenarios. Subjects provided their own hypothetical consensual messages and interpreted messages presented in hypothetical scenarios. The effect size of the gender differences was small, leading for miscommunication being an unlikely explanation for rape.

Gender similarities of sexual attitudes were found in another study. Regan and Dryer (1999) performed a study looking at college students' motivations for seeking casual sex partners and for engaging in casual sexual encounters. Using a free response, essay format, subjects described their reasons and motives for such behavior. Both genders produced similar responses, with intraindividual factors (i.e. sexual desire, experimentation, physical pleasure, alcohol use) associated with casual partner attractiveness being the most commonly reported response.

#### Norm Violation and Female's Clothing

The degree of norm violation on behalf of a hypothetical victim was researched in regards to attribution of responsibility in a sexual assault. Similarly, the effect of a victim's clothing has been researched in regards to the assessment of a hypothetical rape situation. These variables, a victim's clothing and norm violation by the victim, are significant as both are aspects of common rape myths that act to ascribe responsibility to the victim for the assault.

Acock and Ireland (1993) explored the attribution process regarding norm violation, gender and sex role

attitudes of undergraduate students. Subjects were asked to read rape scenarios describing no traditional female norm violation by the victim or severe traditional female norm violation by the victim. Research concluded that the degree of norm violation on the part of the rape victim, gender of the observer, and sex role attitude held by the observer must be considered along with characteristics of the victim in understanding the attribution process of sexual assault. Male subjects are as likely as females to rate the crime as serious, perceive the same degree of norm violation, and not blame the victim and blame the rapist. However, the male subjects expressed positive behavioral intentions toward the rapist and less positive toward the victim than did female subjects.

A sexually assaulted woman's behavior and clothing have been analyzed for their possible effect on altering both genders' assessment of rape. Johnson and Lee (2000) investigated the relative effect of clothing, behavior, and participant's gender on perceptions surrounding an alleged date rape. Using responses to hypothetical vignettes, this study found that the "victim's" type of clothing created no statistically significant difference in participant's perceptions of the rape. Gender differences were reflected in a differentiation between

the degrees of rape, with both genders agreeing that the scenario was rape.

Different factors, ranging from exposure to sexually stereotyped videos to past individual traumas, have been found to affect attitudes and perceptions towards sex and sexuality. Attitudes about sexuality that have been socialized through parents and friends have been correlated with the tendency of holding the victim responsible for the assault. Males were found to hold a higher level of rape tolerant attitudes and to blame the victim more. Circumstantial factors such as the victim's clothing and degree of cultural norm violation have been found to cause a significant difference in the degree of respondent's responses to hypothetical rape scenarios. Therefore, this study, as done in the researched literature, will address the role of gender and circumstantial factors (clothing of the victim, previous sexual contact, high amount of money spent by the perpetrator, high level of sexual aggressiveness committed by the woman). As the role of respondents' age and ethnicity has been neglected in previous literature, this study will also address these factors and how they may possibly influence students' attitudes and perceptions.

## CHAPTER THREE

### METHODS

#### Study Design

This research examined current attitudes and perceptions of a Southern California University's undergraduate student population, specifically in one college, regarding a hypothetical potentially coercive sexual encounter. Also addressed were the subjects' attitudes and perceptions regarding the use of date rape drugs, specifically Rohypnol. The specific issues studied were the perceptions and attitudes towards the use of date rape drugs in social situations and the attributed levels of involvement and responsibility of the individuals involved in a potentially coercive sexual situation. Students, through responses to a hypothetical vignette, were asked about their subscription to a "blame the victim" mentality (indicating their beliefs of possible "contributory" behavior of the woman in the sexual assault), how pressing of a social issue this seems to be, and level of support for common date rape myths. This study was a descriptive study.

Self-administered questionnaires were distributed in eight classroom settings. The rationales for this

methodology include: Subjects being able to respond to questions at their own pace, the facilitation of comprehension through visual arrangement of items on written instrument, quick completion, the yielding a higher response rate. The questionnaire consisted of 16 questions (see Appendix A). This questionnaire was distributed to a group of undergraduate students at a comprehensive four-year university in Southern California, with an estimated population of 16,000. The undergraduate students sampled were from the eight departments of one college, using a stratified random sampling method. The students completed the questionnaire individually, with a member of the research team present to provide instruction.

An advantage to the researcher-designed instrument is that it is customized; it is relevant and appropriate to the issue being studied. A weakness of the instrument is it being a non-standardized instrument, therefore untested validity and reliability. However, a pretest was conducted. The pretest demonstrated a high level of understandability by the subjects and face validity.

The first research question for this study is: What are the attitudes and perceptions of undergraduate students regarding a possibly sexually coercive encounter



and the use of date rape drugs? The hypothesis of the researchers, based on review of literature, stipulates that males will possess a higher level of adversarial attitudes and will attribute more responsibility to the victim in the hypothetical scenario. The second research question is: How will the variable of ethnicity influence subjects' attitudes and perceptions towards a hypothetical possibly coercive sexual encounter? No hypotheses has yet been formed concerning this question due to a lack of literature on the subject. The third research question is: How will the variable of age influence subjects' attitudes and perceptions towards a hypothetical possibly coercive sexual encounter? No hypothesis has yet been formed concerning this question due to a lack of literature on the subject.

#### Sampling

The sampling frame consisted of both male and female undergraduate students in various disciplines and class standings, at a Southern California University. The sample consisted of a range of ethnicities and ages (see Table 1). Three hundred twenty-two students responded to the survey, providing a valid representation of the student population on campus.

Table 1.

Sample

	number	percentages
<b>Gender (N = 320)</b>		
Males	128	39%
Females	192	71%
<b>Ethnicity (N = 322)</b>		
White	161	50%
Latino	97	29.2%
Afro/American	29	9.3%
Asian/American	22	7.1%
Other	9	3.4%
No Response	4	0.9%
<b>Ages (N = 322)</b>		
18-23 years	225	70.5%
24-52 years	97	29.5%

The sample was drawn using a stratified random sampling method. Researchers were provided, by the Chair of each department of the College, a listing of the undergraduate classes of that discipline of study. The fifth class on that list was sampled to request the teacher's permission. The researchers then called the sampled instructors and attempted to obtain permission to

administer the survey in their class. If a professor refused permission, the class immediately next on the list was chosen. All members of the sampled classrooms, present on the day of the study, were eligible for participation.

#### Data Collection and Instruments

Data was collected through means of a survey questionnaire, being administered to sampled classes using a stratified random sampling method. The data that was collected is the responses to the completed questionnaires. Questionnaires, in addition to inquiring about attitudes and perceptions towards a possibly coercive sexual encounter and the use of date rape drugs, asked the subjects' age, ethnicity, and gender. Questionnaires were printed in English. The administration and completion of the survey took approximately 15-20 minutes. Researchers were present in the front of the sampled classroom to provide instruction, debriefing statements, and informed consent.

The data consists of numbered responses, from a Likert-type scale, indicating the level of magnitude of agreement or disagreement of the respondent to the question or statement. The dependant variable of this study is the level of attitudes and perceptions regarding

a possibly coercive sexual encounter and the use of date rape drugs. The level of attitudes and perceptions was measured through the level of the subjects' responses on a questionnaire, responding to a hypothetical vignette, with responses of strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree.

When considered individually, the level of measurement of the dependant variable is ordinal. However, when considered as a whole scale, the level of measurement is interval/ ratio.

Independent variables of this study are ethnicity, age, and gender. These variables were measured through the subjects' responses to the questionnaires. The level of measurement of the independent variables is nominal.

A researcher-designed instrument was created, as there was not an existing instrument to measure this subject with accuracy and validity. All existing rape measures, which were found by the researchers, specifically addressed the act of rape and the attitudes behind the violence and its acceptance, yet did not address date or acquaintance rape and date rape drugs. Consequently, the researchers formulated an instrument to measure this topic through brainstorming ideas about possible questions. Each question was evaluated for its

face validity. In order to keep the questionnaire to an acceptable length, and in attempt to maximize subject participation rate, critical key questions were highlighted and maintained. Ideas of examples of common misogynist and sexually adversarial attitudes were gathered through review of relevant literature. These misogynist beliefs were then modified and applied to a Likert-type scale of agreement or disagreement.

This instrument was pretested through administration to a randomly sampled class that did not participate in the final study. This pretest was administered prior to administration of the actual instrument, ensuring time to correct any unclear or ambiguous questions. Following the administration of the pretest, a debriefing session occurred where respondents could address any problems or concerns they had about the instrument.

#### Procedure

A list of classes of the population of interest was obtained from the Chairs of each department in the college being sampled. These classes were sampled using a stratified random sampling method. The fifth class on each list was sampled. The instructor's permission was requested. The researchers attempted to gain permission to

administer the survey in their class through calling the sampled instructors on campus. If a professor had refused permission, the tenth on the list would have been chosen. However, all teachers granted permission to administer to their classroom, so this was not necessary. All members of the sampled classrooms, present on the day of the study, were eligible for participation.

The researchers both went to the sampled classrooms to administer the survey. The researchers also read the informed consent statement to the class and provided copies of these informed consent and debriefing statements and instructions for completing the survey. The researchers remained present, in the front of the room, while subjects completed the questionnaire to collect the completed questionnaires.

The researchers, immediately following the respondents' completion of the questionnaire, collected the questionnaires. The researchers then and input the data into a SPSS computer program. Data collection began in early January 2001, with data entry occurring during early February. Data analysis began in early March 2001.

## Protection of Human Subjects

Any information obtained in connection of this study remained confidential and will be disclosed only with participants' permission or as required by law. Confidentiality and anonymity were ensured through neither names nor identifying information being requested nor made public. Once the questionnaires had been collected, and the data had been entered into a computer file, the questionnaires were shredded. Participants received informed consent and a debriefing (see Appendixes B and C).

## Data Analysis

The purpose of this study was to examine associations or relationships between the independent variables and the dependant variables. Data analysis was conducted with dual objectives: descriptive and explanatory analysis. Descriptive statistics include such univariate statistics such as frequency distribution, measures of central tendency and dispersion. Multivariate statistics (ANOVA) were employed in exploring potential relationships between the dependant variable of subjects' attitudes and perceptions and the independent variables of age, gender, and ethnicity.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### RESULTS

#### Quantitative Results

The original hypothesis of the researchers was that males would possess a higher level of adversarial attitudes and will attribute more responsibility to the victim in the hypothetical scenario. This hypothesis was not supported. However, achievement of levels of significance on the questionnaire items addressing adversarial sexual beliefs was found regarding the degree and level of subjects' responses. The variables of age and ethnicity also produced significant results. Subjects over the age of 24 years were found to have higher levels of agreement that the vignette did constitute rape. Whites possessed stronger reactions that the vignette did constitute rape and more strongly disagreed that the woman was responsible for the situation.

#### Overall

Overall, there was an agreement that the presented hypothetical scenario constituted rape (see Table 2). The vignette stated that the couple had a prior sexual relationship. The sampled population in general, disagreed



with this having any influence on the definition and perception of rape (see Table 2, Item 3).

Table 2.

Overall Results

	SA	A	D	SD	Missing
	(Percentages)				
1) Item 1	74.2	22.4	1.9	0.9	0.6
2) Item 2	25.8	2.2	0.9	70.8	0.3
3) Item 3	0.6	3.4	38.5	56.8	0.7
4) Item 4	0.9	5.0	23.9	70.2	0.0
5) Item 5	17.1	59.3	15.8	3.1	4.7
6) Item 6	0.6	2.2	16.5	80.1	0.6
7) Item 7	1.6	4.3	41.9	46.3	5.9
8) Item 8	3.7	22.7	37.6	33.9	2.1
9) Item 9	0.6	0.9	9.0	89.1	0.4
10) Item 10	0.3	1.9	12.1	85.7	3.8
11) Item 11	2.8	11.8	40.7	42.5	2.2
12) Item 12	6.2	23.3	27.3	41.6	1.6

Respondents disagreed with the idea that "Sue was asking to be raped" (see Table 2, Item 4). It was postulated that these types of events occur frequently and the sample was split on their reactions to this. The

majority of the sample agreed and strongly agreed, while 15.8% disagreed with these events happening frequently (see Table 2, Item 5).

The sampled population overwhelmingly disagreed with the male in the vignette having the right to give the female Rohypnol (see Table 2, Item 9). Similarly, the vast majority of the respondents disagreed and strongly disagreed with the statement that "the male had a right to have sex" with the female (see Table 2, Item 10). The study found that the majority of the subjects disagreed and strongly disagreed with the statement "the female was equally responsible for the situation" (see Table 2, Item 11). In regards to fear of this type of event happening to themselves, there was a mixed response of subjects. It was found that the majority of the subjects disagreed and strongly disagreed, however, 23.3% agreed that it was a concern.

#### Gender

The results in table three showed a relationship on a number of the items. Overall, results from this study indicated that both males and females perceived that the rape vignette would be considered rape, however females possessed stronger reactions than males (see Table 3).

Table 3.

## Gender Results

	SA	A	D	SD	missing
	(percent)				
Item 1					
Males	69.5	24.2	3.1	1.6	1.6
Females	77.3	21.1	1.0	0.5	0.1
Item 2					
Males	64.8	32.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Females	74.7	21.1	3.1	1.0	0.1
Item 3					
Males	1.5	6.3	48.4	43.8	0.0
Females	0.50	1.50	32.0	65.5	0.5
Item 4					
Males	1.6	5.50	32.8	60.1	0.0
Female	0.60	4.6	18.0	76.8	0.0
Item 5					
Males	14.1	49.2	26.6	3.9	6.2
Females	19.1	66.0	8.8	2.6	3.5
Item 6					
Males	1.6	05.5	20.3	72.6	0.0
Females	0.0	0.0	13.9	85.1	1.0

Table 3.

## Gender Results (cont)

	SA	A	D	SD	missing
	(percent)				
Item 7					
Males	3.9	7.0	40.6	39.8	8.7
Females	0.01	02.6	42.8	50.5	4.0
Item 8					
Males	0.07	1.6	17.2	80.5	0.6
Females	0.03	0.06	04.1	94.8	1.0
Item 9					
Males	0.07	1.6	17.2	80.5	0.6
Females	0.03	0.08	04.1	94.8	0.9
Item 10					
Males	0.08	4.7	20.3	74.2	0.7
Females	0.00	0.0	06.7	93.3	0.0
Item 11					
Males	0.04	13.8	46.3	35.8	4.0
Females	0.02	10.9	38.5	48.3	2.2
Item 12					
Males	2.3	7.2	26.6	60.9	3.0
Females	8.8	34.0	27.8	28.9	0.5

This pattern remains consistent through out table three, with females possessing stronger levels of reaction to presented concepts. Although both males and females agreed that the scenario was rape, females expressed significantly stronger levels of agreement than the male subjects (see Table 3, Item 1).

Table 4.

Gender Results (Significant Level)

	F	Sig
1) Item 1	5.186	.024
2) Item 2	0.999	.319
3) Item 3	11.925	.001
4) Item 4	7.698	.006
5) Item 5	10.896	.001
6) Item 6	19.001	.000
7) Item 7	10.339	.001
8) Item 8	0.619	.432
9) Item 9	14.994	.000
10) Item 10	27.891	.000
11) Item 11	3.073	.081
12) Item 12	38.637	.000

Significantly more males than females thought that the vignette was not rape due to previous sexual involvement (see Table 3, Item 3). Females significantly more strongly disagreed with the idea that previous sexual involvement justifies the behaviors exhibited in this scenario (see Table 3, Item 3). Females also held stronger feelings against the presented concept than that of the female asking to be raped, with the vast majority strongly disagreeing.

Respondents were asked if the female in the vignette was asking to be raped, and both genders did not support this concept. However, females possessed significantly stronger feelings of disagreement than the males (see Table 3 Item 4). Significantly more males responded that they disagreed that these types of events occur on a frequent basis (see Table 3, Item 5). Participants were asked if they would engage in this behavior if they were guaranteed that they would not be caught. Results indicated that while the majority of both genders disagreed with this statement, 1.6% of the males strongly agreed and 5.5% of the males agreed that they would engage in such behaviors and females possessed stronger levels of disagreement (see Table 3, Item 6).

The majority of both genders disagreed with the idea that the female enjoyed this experience. However, significantly more females expressed feelings of strong disagreement and 10.9% of males strongly agreed or agreed with this statement (see Table 3, Item 7). Both genders disagreed that the male in the scenario had the right to give the female Rohypnol; nevertheless, significantly more females possessed stronger levels of disagreement (see Table 3, Item 9). This stronger level of disagreement was again evidenced when subjects were asked if Jim had the right to have sex with the female, with females significantly more strongly disagreeing (see Table 3, Item 10). Significantly more females than males agreed with the concept that they worry about this type of event occurring to them.

Ethnicity

Table 5.

Ethnicity Results

	SA	A	D	SD	missing
	(percent)				
Item 1					
Whites	78.3	16.8	3.1	0.6	0.2
Non-whites	70.3	27.8	0.6	1.3	0.0
Item 2					
Whites	74.5	23.6	0.6	0.6	0.7
Non-whites	66.5	28.5	3.8	1.2	0.0
Item 3					
Whites	0.0	3.1	36.0	60.2	0.7
Non-whites	1.3	3.8	41.8	52.5	0.6
Item 4					
Whites	0.6	5.0	23.6	70.8	0.0
Non-whites	1.3	5.1	24.6	69.0	0.0
Item 5					
Whites	19.9	55.9	18.0	3.1	3.1
Non-whites	13.9	62.7	13.9	3.2	6.3
Item 6					
Whites	0.6	1.2	14.9	82.0	1.3
Non-whites	0.6	3.2	18.4	77.8	0.0



Table 5.

## Ethnicity Results (cont)

	SA	A	D	SD	missing
	(percent)				
Item 7					
Whites	1.2	3.7	42.9	44.1	0.1
Non-whites	1.9	5.1	41.1	48.1	3.8
Item 8					
Whites	3.7	21.7	39.8	32.3	2.5
Non-whites	3.8	23.4	34.8	36.1	1.9
Item 9					
Whites	0.6	1.2	9.9	88.2	0.1
Non-whites	0.6	0.6	8.9	89.9	0.0
Item 10					
Whites	0.6	1.9	11.2	86.3	0.0
Non-whites	0.0	1.9	13.3	84.8	0.4
Item 11					
Whites	2.5	8.7	39.1	47.8	1.9
Non-whites	3.2	15.2	43.0	36.1	2.5
Item 12					
Whites	5.0	21.1	28.6	44.7	0.6
Non-whites	7.6	24.0	26.6	39.2	2.5

Table 6.

## Ethnicity Results (Significant Level)

	F	Sig
1) Item 1	3.717	.055
2) Item 2	3.164	.076
3) Item 3	2.776	.097
4) Item 4	0.088	.930
5) Item 5	0.667	.415
6) Item 6	2.496	.115
7) Item 7	0.251	.617
8) Item 8	0.003	.950
9) Item 9	1.124	.290
10) Item 10	2.880	.592
11) Item 11	5.384	.021
12) Item 12	0.198	.657

Multivariate testing on ethnicity showed significance on items one and eleven (see Table 6). Generally, the data patterns indicate that whites and non-whites both perceived that the vignette was rape (see Table 5). However, whites tended to possess significantly stronger feelings of agreement that it did constitute rape than non-whites (see Table 5, Item 1). This pattern was also present through data that indicated that whites

significantly more strongly, than the non-whites, disagreed with the concept of the female in the vignette being responsible (see Table 5, Item 11).

Table 7.

Age Results

	SA	A	D	SD	missing
	(percent)				
Item 1					
Age 18	69.0	21.4	4.8	4.8	0.0
Age 19	74.5	23.6	1.8	0.0	0.1
Age 20	75.0	20.0	5.0	0.0	0.0
Age 21	63.6	31.8	2.3	0.0	2.3
Age 22-23	76.1	23.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Age 24 above	80.0	17.9	0.0	1.1	1.0
Item 2					
Age 18	78.6	19.0	2.4	0.0	0.0
Age 19	61.8	30.9	5.5	1.8	0.0
Age 20	70.0	27.5	0.0	2.5	0.0
Age 21	63.6	31.8	2.3	2.3	0.0
Age 22-23	76.1	23.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Age 24 above	73.7	23.2	2.1	0.0	0.0

Table 7. Age Results (cont)

	SA	A	D	SD	missing
	(percent)				
Item 3					
Age 18	4.8	0.0	38.1	57.1	0.0
Age 19	0.0	5.5	32.7	60.0	1.8
Age 20	0.0	7.5	40.0	52.5	0.0
Age 21	0.0	2.3	36.4	59.1	2.2
Age 22-23	0.0	6.5	45.7	47.8	0.0
Age 24 above	0.0	1.1	38.9	60.0	0.0
Item 4					
Age 18	2.4	4.8	19.0	73.8	0.0
Age 19	0.0	5.5	30.9	63.6	0.0
Age 20	2.5	7.5	25.0	65.0	0.0
Age 21	0.0	4.5	15.9	79.5	0.1
Age 22-23	2.2	0.0	30.4	67.4	0.0
Age 24 above	0.0	6.3	22.1	71.6	0.0
Item 5					
Age 18	9.5	61.9	19.0	4.8	4.8
Age 19	20.0	60.0	12.7	1.8	5.5
Age 20	25.0	57.5	15.0	2.5	0.0
Age 21	20.5	56.8	18.2	4.5	0.0
Age 22-23	10.9	76.1	8.7	2.2	2.1
Age 24 above	16.8	51.6	18.9	3.2	9.5

Table 7. Age Results (cont)

	SA	A	D	SD	missing
	(percent)				
Item 6					
Age 18	2.4	2.4	21.4	73.8	0.0
Age 19	0.0	0.0	18.2	81.8	0.0
Age 20	0.0	2.5	22.5	75.0	0.0
Age 21	0.0	0.0	11.4	86.4	2.2
Age 22-23	0.0	8.7	10.9	80.4	0.0
Age 24 above	1.1	1.1	15.8	81.1	0.9
Item 7					
Age 18	0.0	14.3	35.7	42.9	7.1
Age 19	0.0	1.8	50.9	38.2	9.1
Age 20	5.0	5.0	42.5	42.5	5.0
Age 21	2.3	2.3	38.6	47.7	8.1
Age 22-23	2.2	2.2	47.8	45.7	2.1
Age 24 above	1.1	3.2	37.9	53.7	4.1
Item 8					
Age 18	0.0	16.7	45.2	35.7	2.4
Age 19	3.6	29.1	25.5	36.4	5.4
Age 20	5.0	30.0	45.0	20.0	0.0
Age 21	0.0	18.2	50.0	31.8	0.0
Age 22-23	2.2	26.1	45.7	23.9	2.1
Age 24 above	7.4	18.9	28.4	43.2	2.1

Table 7. Age Results (cont)

	SA	A	D	SD	missing
	(percent)				
Item 9					
Age 18	2.4	2.4	9.5	85.7	0.0
Age 19	0.0	1.8	7.3	90.9	0.0
Age 20	0.0	0.0	15.0	85.0	0.0
Age 21	0.0	2.3	4.5	93.2	0.0
Age 22-23	0.0	0.0	13.0	87.0	0.0
Age 24 above	1.1	0.0	8.4	90.5	0.0
Item 10					
Age 18	0.0	2.4	11.9	85.7	0.0
Age 19	0.0	0.00	10.9	89.1	0.0
Age 20	0.0	5.0	15.0	80.0	0.0
Age 21	0.0	4.5	4.5	90.9	0.1
Age 22-23	0.0	0.0	15.2	84.8	0.0
Age 24 above	1.1	1.1	13.7	84.2	0.0
Item 11					
Age 18	0.0	4.8	52.4	40.5	2.3
Age 19	1.8	5.5	40.0	49.1	3.6
Age 20	5.0	17.5	40.0	37.5	0.0
Age 21	0.0	13.6	38.6	45.5	2.3
Age 22-23	0.0	13.0	54.3	28.3	4.4
Age 24 above	6.3	14.7	30.5	47.4	1.1

Table 7. Age Results (cont)

	SA	A	D	SD	missing
	(percent)				
Item 12					
Age 18	7.1	21.4	33.3	33.3	4.9
Age 19	9.1	38.2	12.7	38.2	1.8
Age 20	10.0	15.0	30.0	45.0	0.0
Age 21	6.8	22.7	40.9	29.5	0.1
Age 22-23	2.2	26.1	34.8	32.6	4.3
Age 24 above	4.2	17.9	22.1	55.8	0.0

When evaluating the relationship between the independent variable of age and attitudes and perceptions towards the scenario, subjects of all age groups generally agreed on their responses (see Table 8). However, a significance difference was found between age groups regarding the perception that the presented vignette constituted rape. Subjects over the age of 24 years old were more likely to strongly agree that the presented vignette did constitute rape (see Table 8, Item 1).

Table 8.

Age Results (Significant Level)

	F	Sig
1) Item 1	2.606	.026
2) Item 2	1.595	.162
3) Item 3	1.121	.349
4) Item 4	0.898	.483
5) Item 5	1.680	.140
6) Item 6	1.681	.140
7) Item 7	1.136	.342
8) Item 8	1.276	.274
9) Item 9	1.003	.417
10) Item 10	1.312	.259
11) Item 11	1.326	.253
12) Item 12	1.144	.338

Qualitative Results

Several interesting patterns of responses to the open-ended comment question were found. Twenty-five of the respondents reported that they do not put themselves in the type of situation that would put them at risk for date rape or date rape drugging. Fifteen of the respondents stated that it was the introduction of the Rohypnol in the vignette that constituted rape. Fourteen of the subjects reported that rape should never happen, under any



circumstances. Ten respondents stated that both of the parties involve in the presented vignette were equally responsible for the situation. Nine of the respondents reported that incidents such as the hypothetical scenario happen on a frequent basis.

To sum up the qualitative findings, respondents believed that they are not at risk for incidents such as this due to avoiding perceived dangerous situations. A considerable number of the respondents expressed that the situation would not have been rape if Rohpynol had not been used. Both parties were also believed to be responsible.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### DISCUSSION

The results from the data present some interesting findings in regard to variations based upon subjects' gender, ethnicity, and age. Females held stronger levels of reactions that the rape did constitute rape and more strongly disagreed with the idea that the woman asked to be raped. Whites, more than non-whites, more strongly disagreed that the female was responsible for the situation. Respondents over the age of 24 years, reported stronger reactions that the vignette did constitute rape.

#### Gender

Gender differences among males and females may mean a variety of things. Sexual coercion and date rape drugging are a particular concern for primarily women, as a result women take this issue more personally. Women were socialized at a very young age to be aware of the coercion by the opposite sex, with a majority of date rape literature and programs at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels being aimed particularly at women. It's a possibility through societal cultural norms that women were socialized to feel/ behave this way as a result they hold stronger feelings on date rape and date rape drugging

then men. More research needs to be done regarding how this socialization of cultural norms influences attitudes and perceptions towards a possibly coercive sexual experience.

Overall results, also indicated that the majority men at this University perceived the vignette as rape. This can be possibly attributed to our changing society, where a majority of women are actively involved the work force and increasing holding formerly male dominated positions. This could mean that the perception of women's roles, are changing along with men taking root of the feminist perspective, leading to a decrease in conventional gender stereotypes. Further research is needed in this area regarding a change in men's attitudes and perceptions.

#### Ethnicity

Findings regarding ethnicity indicated that more whites than non-whites held stronger beliefs in reference to date rape and date rape drugs. Cultural factors play a crucial role, many of the non whites in this sampled population are first or second generation immigrants, they are being acculturated and their definition on cultural norms for sexuality may differ. More research is needed on this topic.

## Age

Generally, subjects over the age of 24 indicated that they had a significantly stronger perception that the vignette was rape, compared to younger subjects. This may be due to the younger subjects having not yet reached a psychosocial level of maturity to overcome the "I am invincible" mentality. This may cause them to be concerned about these situations or feel "it can never happen to me." The reality of the problem may not taken root, considering they are in a different life stage.

## Implications for Social Work Practice

Social Work implications are tremendous. Literature review on this topic indicated that males would hold more adversarial sexual beliefs towards women. This study found the opposite, in fact, males held similar views compared to women, however, women held a stronger level of beliefs toward sexual coercion and date rape drugs. It's could be hypothesized that men are overcoming this negative stereotype, and future social work research should view research factors that are contributing to this changing perception.

Other possible future research concerns administration of this study at another Southern

California university, with a higher level of student involvement in fraternities, sororities, and campus parties to investigate possible differences in produced data. Similarly, this study could be administered to an East Coast or Midwest university to explore similarities and differences in attitudes and perceptions of students there.

As this study used a heterosexual scenario, differences in responses would possibly arise if the presented scenario had been involving homosexual individuals. This study could be administered to both a mixed sample heterosexual students and homosexual students or to a sample of only homosexual students to explore how responses might differ.

#### Strengths and Weaknesses of the Study

Strengths of the study included that it provided needed research in an area that had been previously lacking in the research. Increased generalizability was obtained through a large sample size and examination of a range departments within the surveyed college. A strength of the study is that the campus is diverse in regards to ethnicity, religion, culture, age, socioeconomic status, gender and will provide a representative response.

Reliability was increased through use of rigorous survey methods. The data obtained will be valuable to social work in both educational and clinical domains.

Weaknesses of the study were the sample frame consisting of one college within one University, in one geographic area of Southern California. Demographics of this University indicated that a majority of student are older and currently in the work force. This University does not have an active sorority or fraternity scene. Results may be different had this study be administered in a campus with a high rate of fraternities or sororities, or in any area that had more student involvement in a fraternity and sorority "party scene."

Societal and cultural factors are possible rationales for the data produced by this study. As well, the factors of personal internalization and level of psychosocial maturity hold a probable relationship. This study will benefit social work practice through addressing stereotypes regarding men's attitudes and perceptions of a possible coercive sexual encounter. Likewise, the study sets up for similar research being conducted on a college population in a different geographical area or with a homosexual population. Although this study was representative of only one university, it involved a large

sample size and utilized appropriate survey research procedures.

APPENDIX A  
QUESTIONNAIRE



## QUESTIONNAIRE

Please circle or fill in the response that is most accurate of your background information.

(1) What is your age?

\_\_\_\_\_

(2) What is your gender?

- 1) Male
- 2) Female

What is your ethnicity?

- 1) African American
- 2) Asian Pacific Islander
- 3) Hispanic/Latino/Chicano
- 4) White
- 5) Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

This Questionnaire addresses a topic that elicits strong feelings. There are some statements about personal values or beliefs that people feel differently about. This is not a test, so there are no right or wrong answers. All responses will remain completely confidential. Please read the hypothetical scenario and each statement carefully and indicate, as honestly as possible, your personal belief and values.

### Vignette

Jim, after viewing several sexually explicit movies, goes to a local restaurant that also has a nightclub. At this location, he runs into Sue, a woman he had been previously sexually involved with. Sue is dressed in a short skirt and a revealing blouse. Jim suggests that they have a drink, and possibly dinner, together. Jim spends a great deal of money on Sue, ordering the most expensive meals and wines. After dinner, they enter the nightclub and begin engaging in heavy kissing and seductive dancing. Approximately thirty minutes later, when Sue goes to the restroom, he slips a Rohypnol tablet into her drink. After drinking this drink, Sue begins feeling light-headed and disoriented. Jim suggests they go outside for some fresh air, where they have sex in the parking lot.

Now please respond to the following statements based on this scenario. The comment sections are optional. For the purposes of this questionnaire, Rohypnol is defined as a drug that rapidly causes disinhibition, disorientation, passivity, loss of will to resist, muscle relaxation, and anterograde amnesia.

- (1) This is rape.
  - 1) Strongly Agree
  - 2) Agree
  - 3) Disagree
  - 4) Strongly Disagree
- (2) If Sue told me this story, and said it was rape, she would be right.
  - 1) Strongly Agree
  - 2) Agree
  - 3) Disagree
  - 4) Strongly Disagree
- (3) This situation could not be rape because they had already had sex in the past and were obviously headed for it again, evidenced through their kissing and seductive dancing.
  - 1) Strongly Agree
  - 2) Agree
  - 3) Disagree
  - 4) Strongly Disagree
- (4) Sue was asking to be raped by wearing such seductive clothing.
  - 1) Strongly Agree
  - 2) Agree
  - 3) Disagree
  - 4) Strongly Disagree
- (5) Incidents, similar to this, occur on a frequent basis.
  - 1) Strongly Agree
  - 2) Agree
  - 3) Disagree
  - 4) Strongly Disagree



APPENDIX B  
INFORMED CONSENT

## INFORMED CONSENT

This study in which you are about to participate is designed to investigate student's attitudes toward rape, and date rape drug usage at California State University, San Bernardino's student population. This study is being conducted by Seana Fraser-Estavillo and Hang Sara Nguyen under the supervision of Dr. Theresa Morris, Chair of the Social Work Department. This study has been approved by the Department of Social Work subcommittee of the Institutional Review Board at California State University, San Bernardino. The University requires consent being given before participation in the study. In this study you will be asked to respond to a 15-item questionnaire. This task should take 15-20 minutes to complete. All of your responses will be held in strictest of confidence by the researchers. Your name will not asked nor reported with your responses. All data will be reported in group format only. You may receive the group results of this study upon completion of the Spring quarter of 2001, with a copy being available in the library.

Your participation in this study is voluntary. You are free to withdraw at any time during this study without penalty. When you complete the task, you will receive a debriefing statement describing the study in more detail. In order to ensure the validity of this study, we ask you not discuss this study with other students.

If you have any questions about the study, please feel free to contact Seana Fraser-Estavillo, Hang Sara Nguyen or Professor Morris at (909) 880-5501. By placing a check mark in the line below, I acknowledge that I have been informed of, and that I understand the nature and the purpose of this study, and freely consent to participate. I also acknowledge that I am at least 18 years of age.

Place a check mark her \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

APPENDIX C  
DEBRIEFING STATEMENT

## DEBRIEFING STATEMENT

The study you have completed was designed to investigate factors the California State University, San Bernardino's student population's attitudes towards date rape and date rape drugs.

Thank you for your participation and for not discussing the contents of the questionnaire with other students. If you have any questions about the study, please feel free to contact Seana Fraser-Estavillo, Hang Sara Nguyen or Professor Morris at (909) 880-5501. If you like to obtain a copy of the group results, a copy will be available in the Library and Department of Social Work, at the end of Spring quarter of 2001.

If you would like further information on this topic, contacts are listed below:

- RAIN (national rape crisis hotline)  
1 800 656 HOPE
- Campus Counseling Center at extension 3135
- Riverside Area Rape Crisis Center  
1465 Spruce Street, Suite G  
Riverside, CA 92507 (909) 686-7273
- San Bernardino Assault Services (909) 885-8884  
536 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street #C, San Bernardino, CA 92410

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## ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITIES

This research was a team effort where both authors worked collaborated in all phases of the study.

1) Data Collection:

Hang Sara Nguyen and Seana Fraser-Estavillo

2) Data Entry and Analysis:

Hang Sara Nguyen and Seana Fraser-Estavillo

3) Writing Report and Presentation of findings:

a) Introduction and Literature Review

Seana Fraser-Estavillo and Hang Sara Nguyen

b) Methods

Seana Fraser-Estavillo and Hang Sara Nguyen

c) Results

Hang Sara Nguyen and Seana Fraser-Estavillo

d) Discussion

Seana Fraser Estavillo and Hang Sara Nguyen